

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of the Commission
May 21, 2014
10:00 a.m.

James R. Thompson Center
Murdock Room - IDHS
Suite 5-300
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

and

Lincoln Land Training Center
130 W. Mason Street
Room 104
Springfield, Illinois

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Commissioners

In Chicago

Chairman Martin R. Castro
Robert A. Cantone
David Chang
Terry Cosgrove
Nabi Fakroddin
Lauren Beth Gash
Rozanne Ronen
Diane M. Viverito
Patricia Bakalis Yadgir
David J. Walsh

In Springfield

Marti Baricevic
Brad Cole

Absent

Merri Dee

Staff

LaNade Bridges
N. Keith Chambers
Dr. Ewa Ewa
Mike Evans
Reva Bauch
Donyelle L. Gray

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

En Banc Minutes – May 21, 2014
Page 2 of 4

Evelio Mora
Christine M. Welninski
Byron Wardlaw

Members of Public: none

NOTICE:

Public and closed meetings of the Illinois Human Rights Commission are audio recorded.

I. Call to Order

On May 21, 2014 at 10:04 a.m., Chairman Castro called to order a meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., it was determined that:

- 1) A quorum of the public body was present at the meeting. Prior to the meeting, Commissioner Dee gave notice to the General Counsel and Secretary of the Public Body, Donyelle Gray that she would not be present for the meeting.

II. Consideration of Minutes

April 30, 2014

The Commission voted to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2014 as amended: Section II Consideration of March 26, 2014 minutes, to reflect Commissioner Cantone made the Motion to approve the minutes of March 26, 2014. Motion to approve the April 30, 2014 minutes as amended made by Commissioner Gash and seconded by Commissioner Nabi. Motion carried 12-0.

III. Chairman's Report

Martin R. Castro, Chairman

Chairman Castro reported that he attended an event hosted by the Chicago Community Trust along with Executive Director Chambers. The event "On the Table" was held on May 12, 2014 throughout the Chicago area.

IV. Staff Reports

A. *N. Keith Chambers, Executive Director*

Mr. Chambers reported that the Senate passed the Pregnancy Accommodation Bill. The Bill would amend the Illinois Human Rights Act by adding a new protected class.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

En Banc Minutes – May 21, 2014
Page 3 of 4

Mr. Chambers reported that the estimated cost to translate Commission brochure into Polish and Spanish would be about \$875. Mr. Chambers further reported that he will speak with staff of the Illinois Department of Human Rights for information on cost factors and translation providers.

Mr. Chambers reported that the Commission's website has been updated to include information about community outreach.

Mr. Chambers reported that he is scheduled to meet with CMS in order to obtain new office space for TIRC.

B. Dr. Ewa I. Ewa, Chief Fiscal Officer

Dr. Ewa reported that he spoke with the Speaker's Office and that the Speaker's Office sent Dr. Ewa legislation regarding the Commission's FY15 budget. Initially, the legislation called for 1.4 million dollar budget which would be a 20% cut. Dr. Ewa later conducted talks with the Speaker's Office which resulted in a change of the budget to an increase of 1.9 million dollars. Dr. Ewa further stated that he felt confident that the later budget would pass in the General Assembly.

Dr. Ewa reported the Commission is endeavoring to fill two positions for the General Counsel section. The positions are for an Assistant General Counsel and an administrative staff position.

C. Michael J. Evans, Chief Administrative Law Judge

Chief Administrative Law Evans gave the report for the Chief Administrative Law Judge for the month of April 2014.

D. Donyelle Gray, General Counsel

Ms. Gray gave general reminders to the Commission regarding Statements of Economic Interest, timesheets, and Annual Ethics Training for State Appointees.

Ms. Gray announce that the 2014 Summer Coles Fellows will be staring the first week of June.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Public Comment

None

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

En Banc Minutes – May 21, 2014
Page 4 of 4

VII. Executive Session

None

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m. Motion made by Commissioner Nabi, seconded by Commissioner Gash. Motion carried 12-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donyelle L. Gray
General Counsel